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heart failure

A condition where there is ineffective pumping of the heart leading to an accumulation of fluid in the lungs. Typical symptoms include shortness of breath with exertion, difficulty breathing when lying flat and leg or ankle swelling. Causes include chronic hypertension, cardiomyopathy and myocardial infarction.

(27 Sep 1997)

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diuresis

<physiology> Increased excretion of urine. Can be due to metabolic conditions such as diabetes, where the increased glucose level in the blood causes water to be lost in the urine. Can also be produced specifically by diuretic drugs that increase sodium and water loss from the kidney.

Origin: Gr. Diourein = to urinate, to pass in urine

(18 Nov 1997)

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